

Veterans and Family Support



Brothers and Sisters of the Department of NM, I have just recently had the honor of representing my Post, my District, and my Department at our 112th Annual National Convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary.

I was honored to be a delegate to the Convention, and to have another opportunity to learn more about our great organization, as well as my obligations and responsibilities related to the chairmanships and offices that I now hold. I am so excited about our new National President Lois Callahan's theme: "**From Sea to Shining Sea, Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free.**"

I am humbly asking each of you reading this promotional to sign into MALTA, click on **Member Resources**, and download the **Program Book** for this year. The cover is beautiful, and President Callahan's message to us all is so inspiring. She ends with the words "**Be the lighthouse in someone's storm.**" Now isn't that just the perfect theme for our **Veterans and Family Support** program this year, along with "A rising tide lifts all veterans to success?? Better believe it!

On pages 57-61 of our Program Book, you will meet our Veterans and Family Support Ambassador, Annie O'Connor, and read her message about all the ways we can help our veterans and families this year. There is also more great information about our VF&S program, including National **AWARDS** you can win for your volunteer work helping our veterans and families!! Please take advantage of the opportunity to check out this year's Program Book, you'll be glad you did!!

Speaking of awards, I have decided I will be sending MONTHLY awards to the best reports with photos received, as well as the earlier promised award that I will be giving to EVERY Chairman at the end of the year that sends me at least ONE photo to add to our documentary video.

So here are our monthly winners so far: **drum roll**

July—Shirlee Frias, Post 401, Great photos and reports!!

August—A TIE between Karen Coffey Post 5890—First photos for August and another great report, and Kelly Fouse Post 7686—several photos and a terrific report, as well. These reports were sent by email and text. You can also report electronically at www.vfwauxnm.org, and send me your photo separately, if you like.

(By the way, I will be judging by the month I received the photos, not necessarily the month of the event or activity). I will be sending out awards next week to our winners so far. Congrats and BIG THANKS, to my awesome "photo-journalists"!

It's time now for the September contest, and I can't wait to hear from even MORE Auxiliaries about the great work you are doing, making a difference in the lives of our Veterans and Families!!

Yours in Service,

Marsha Short

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